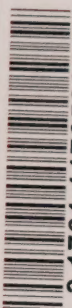


CA1  
J150  
-1998  
I12



3 1761 11765905 2

I am a farmer or rancher







CAI  
J 150  
- 1998  
I 12Canadian  
Firearms  
CentreCentre  
canadien des  
armes à feu

## How the Law Applies to Me If....

### I AM A FARMER OR RANCHER

The *Firearms Act* brings about changes that will affect firearms owners and users.

This fact sheet is of interest to you if:

- you are a farmer or rancher, and own or use long guns such as rifles or shotguns; and,
- you are 18 years of age or older.

#### FIREARMS LICENCES

The *Firearms Act* requires everyone who owns or uses firearms to have a firearms licence. Licensing of firearm owners and users will begin December 1, 1998.

#### LICENCES FOR INDIVIDUALS

Two basic types of licences will be available for adult individuals:

- a possession-only licence; and,
- a possession and acquisition licence.

Your firearms licence will identify which class or classes of firearms you are permitted to have:

- **Non-Restricted** (such as rifles and shotguns);
- **Restricted** (primarily handguns); and/or,
- **Prohibited** (automatic and converted automatic firearms, handguns with a barrel

length of 105 mm or less, 25 or 32 calibre handguns, and other firearms prohibited by Order in Council).

If you have firearms, you must have a licence by January 1, 2001. A valid Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) is considered a licence.

#### **Possession-Only Licence**

If you already have firearms and don't plan to get any more, you may apply for a possession-only licence. This licence permits you to possess the firearms that you already own and will allow you to borrow similar firearms.

You must apply for a possession-only licence before January 1, 2001. After that date, anyone getting their first firearms licence under the new law will have to get a possession and acquisition licence.

A possession-only licence must be renewed every five years.

There is no safety course requirement to get a possession-only licence.

#### **Possession and Acquisition Licence**

Whether you now have firearms or not, if you plan to acquire any you must obtain a possession and acquisition licence. This licence will allow

you to buy firearms or receive them as gifts, inheritances, or in trade.

A possession and acquisition licence also must be renewed every five years.

You don't have to take the Canadian Firearms Safety Course to get a possession and acquisition licence, although you must pass the required test. There are some exceptions (see below).

### **Firearm Acquisition Certificate (FAC)**

If you already have a Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) now, or you get one before December 1, 1998 when the *Firearms Act* comes into effect, you may continue to use it until it expires. If it expires after January 1, 2001, you must replace it with a licence issued under the new law by the expiry date set out on the FAC.

### **LICENCES FOR BUSINESSES**

If your firearms are owned in the name of your farm or ranch, your farm or ranch may be considered a business under the *Firearms Act*.

If this is the case, you will need to obtain a firearms business licence to possess firearms. You will need this licence before you buy or trade your firearms, or by January 1, 2001, whichever comes first.

You will not need a firearms business licence if:

- the firearms are in your name, or in the name of another individual.
- your firearms are related only indirectly to your "business activities". For example, if you keep your firearms for hunting and only occasionally use them for predator control on the farm or ranch.

Some things to consider when deciding if you need or want a firearms business licence include:

- the number of firearms you keep for "business purposes" like **predator control**;
- whether the firearms are used strictly for business purposes, rather than for personal or recreational activities like hunting or collecting;
- whether the firearms were purchased through your farm or ranch or with a business FAC;
- the number of people who share ownership of the firearms or are responsible for them.
- how often are firearms likely to be used for business purposes;
- the number of employees who have access to the firearms;
- whether your business insurance policy will provide coverage if there is an accident involving a firearm registered to an individual;
- whether the firearms will be stored on the premises of the farm or ranch or in your house.

Also check with your Chief Firearms Officer to see if provincial/territorial policies require you to have a firearms business licence rather than a personal firearms licence.

### **LICENCES FOR EMPLOYEES**

If the firearms are owned in the name of your farm or ranch, you may lend the firearms only to someone, such as an employee, who has a possession and acquisition licence for restricted firearms.

If the firearms are owned in your name, or in the name of another individual, you can lend them to any of your employees who have either a possession-only licence or a possession and acquisition licence for any class of firearm.



## CANADIAN FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE

The Canadian Firearms Safety Course is being changed to reflect the new law and regulations. The course will be split into two. One course will deal with non-restricted firearms safety; the other will focus on restricted firearms safety.

You won't need to take a Canadian Firearms Safety Course to get a possession-only licence.

To get a possession and acquisition licence, you need to pass the required Canadian Firearms Safety Course test, **unless**:

1. You have already passed the test; or,
2. You have passed a firearms safety course that has been "designated as equivalent" by the Attorney General of Manitoba or Québec; or,
3. A Chief Firearms Officer (CFO) certifies that your knowledge of firearms laws and safe handling practices meets the standards required by the licencing regulations.

If you pass the test for the current Canadian Firearms Safety Course, or receive alternate credit for it as set out above, you will not be required to take the new Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course or pass the test to get a possession and acquisition licence.

If you were prohibited by court order from possessing firearms, you will have to take the required Canadian Firearms Safety Course **and** pass the test, before applying for a firearms licence. This rule applies even if you took the required Canadian Firearms Safety Course and passed the test before your prohibition.

## REGISTRATION

The *Firearms Act* will require you to register all of your firearms. You must have a valid firearms licence or a valid FAC to register your firearms.

Registration of long guns will begin on December 1, 1998. You will have until January 1, 2003 to register all the rifles and shotguns that you had when the law came into effect. Any firearm acquired after December 1, 1998 is considered a transfer (see below).

You only have to register a firearm once. A registration certificate will be issued for each firearm that you own. It is valid for as long as you own the firearm. If you lend your firearm to another person, you also must lend the registration certificate.

If you have firearms that are registered now (primarily handguns), you will be asked to assist in updating your personal and firearm information. This information will then be transferred to the new registration system. A certificate under the new registration system will then be issued for **each** of these firearms. There will be **no fee** for this.

## TRANSFERS

When you receive a gun or transfer (sell, barter or give) one to another person, the ownership must be transferred to the new owner. At the time of the transfer, a Transfer Authorization Number will be issued to both the new and previous owners by a central processing site (call 1-800-731-4000). This number will serve as a registration number for the new owner until their new registration certificate arrives in the mail.



## FEES

There will be **separate** fees for licensing, registration and transfers.

### **Licence Fees**

A five-year possession-only licence will cost \$10 in the first year following implementation (December 1, 1998 to November 30, 1999). This fee will rise on a sliding scale to \$45 (October 1, 1999 to August 31, 2000) and finally to \$60 (on or after September 1, 2000).

A five-year possession and acquisition licence will cost \$60 for non-restricted firearms only and \$80 for non-restricted **and** restricted and prohibited firearms.

A one-year firearms business licence will cost \$50. You will need to renew it once a year.

### **Registration Fees**

You only have to pay once to register a firearm.

If you register the long guns you own now in the first year following implementation (December 1, 1998 to November 30, 1999) it will cost you a flat fee of \$10 for all of the firearms that you register at the same time. This fee also will rise on a sliding scale to a flat fee of \$14 (October 1, 1999 to August 31, 2000), and finally to a flat fee of \$18 (on or after September 1, 2000).

### **Transfer Fees**

For each firearm that you acquire in a transfer after the Act comes into effect, it will cost you \$25. This fee covers the cost of issuing a new registration certificate. This fee only applies to individuals, not businesses.

## SAFE STORAGE

### **Safe Storage by Individuals**

Most requirements for safely storing your firearms will not change under the *Firearms Act Regulations*.

As always, store your firearms unloaded. When storing your rifle or shotgun, either attach a suitable, secure locking device (i.e. trigger lock, cable lock) to it so it cannot be fired, or remove its bolt or bolt carrier (if it is removable). Or, store your rifle or shotgun in a securely locked container or room that cannot be easily broken into.

Store your rifle or shotgun, as well, in a place where ammunition for the firearm is not easy to obtain. Ammunition may be stored with your firearm if you are storing the ammunition in a securely locked container that cannot be easily broken open.

As an individual, if you use your rifle or shotgun for **predator control** (in areas where it is legal to discharge a firearm), you may leave it, temporarily, unlocked and out in the open, as long as it remains unloaded.

Safe storage requirements for restricted and prohibited firearms vary from above. You can call the CFC toll-free line at 1-800-731-4000 for more information.

### **Safe Storage by Businesses**

If you get a business licence, you will have to follow the safe storage requirements for businesses under the *Firearms Act*.

As always, store your firearms unloaded. You may store your rifles and shotguns in a securely locked location, or in a securely locked cabinet, vault or safe. You also may store your long-guns in a location that only you or an employee may access. The storage location also must have an electronic burglar alarm system, and windows and doors that can be securely locked.

You may also store your rifle or shotgun in a secure location that is equal or superior to the requirements listed above. To do so, you need written approval from your Chief Firearms Officer.

### **COMING INTO FORCE**

The *Firearms Act* is being phased in from December 1, 1998 to January 1, 2003.

### **INFORMATION**

For more information, or to order a copy of the *Firearms Act*, its regulations, application forms and other CFC publications, contact us at:

1-800-731-4000 (Toll Free)

Web site: [www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca](http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca)

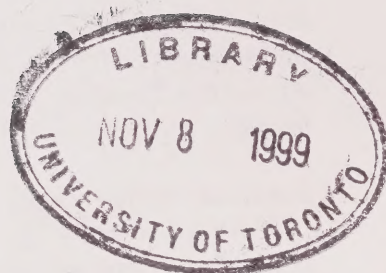
e-mail: [canadian.firearms@justice.x400.gc.ca](mailto:canadian.firearms@justice.x400.gc.ca)

**This fact sheet is intended to provide general information only. For legal references, please refer to the *Firearms Act* and its regulations.**

**Provincial, territorial and municipal laws, regulations and policies may also apply. Contact your Chief Firearms Officer.**

*Le présent feuillet d'information est également disponible en français.*

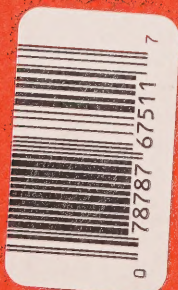












Oxford®  
ESSELTE

